## What is claimed is:

- 1. A food formulation for the child-safe preparation of an edible foodstuff that is representational of a target food item, where the edible foodstuff is preparable by the addition of water to the food formulation, and the edible foodstuff has a texture and a flavor appropriate for the target food item.
- 2. The food formulation of claim 1, wherein the edible foodstuff has an appearance that is appropriate for the target food item.
- 3. The food formulation of claim 1, wherein the edible foodstuff is preparable at or below room temperature.
- 4. The food formulation of claim 1, wherein the food formulation is provided in at least one sealed packet.
- 5. The food formulation of claim 1, wherein the food formulation includes a topping for application to the edible foodstuff.
- 6. The food formulation of claim 5, wherein the topping includes candy or sugar sprinkles.

- 7. The food formulation of claim 1, wherein the target food item is a cake or brownie.
- 8. The food formulation of claim 7, wherein the food formulation includes cookie crumbs.
- 9. The food formulation of claim 7, wherein the food formulation includes icing or an icing composition.
- 10. The food formulation of claim 1, wherein the target food item is a milkshake or a smoothie beverage.
- 11. The food formulation of claim 10, wherein the food formulation includes a mix-in ingredient, and the preparation of the edible foodstuff includes the addition of the mix-in ingredient.
- 12. The food formulation of claim 11, wherein the mix-in ingredient is selected from candies, syrups, granola, fruit, dried fruit, and dehydrated fruit.
- 13. The food formulation of claim 1, wherein the target food item is a fondue.

- 14. The food formulation of claim 13, wherein the food formulation includes dippable ingredients for dipping in the edible foodstuff.
- 15. The food formulation of claim 14, where the dippable ingredients include at least one of marshmallow candies and edible gelatin candies.
- 16. The food formulation of claim 1, wherein the target food item is a sorbet.
- 17. The food formulation of claim 1, wherein the target food item is a dessert gel.
- 18. A food formulation for preparation of an edible foodstuff that is representational of a target food item, wherein the edible foodstuff is preparable by the addition of water to the food formulation, the edible foodstuff has a texture and a flavor appropriate for the target food item; and preparation of the edible foodstuff facilitates constructive play by simulating preparation of the target food item.
- 19. The food formulation of claim 18, wherein the edible foodstuff is preparable at or below room temperature.
- 20. The food formulation of claim 18, wherein the food formulation includes at least one of a topping or mix-in ingredient for application to or mixing into the edible foodstuff.

- 21. The food formulation of claim 20, wherein the topping or mix-in ingredient includes at least one of candies, sugar, fruits, dried fruits, or dehydrated fruits.
- 22. The food formulation of claim 18, wherein the target food item is a cake or brownie.
- 23. The food formulation of claim 18, wherein the target food item is a milkshake or a smoothie beverage.
- 24. The food formulation of claim 18, wherein the target food item is a fondue and includes dippable ingredients for dipping in the edible foodstuff.
- 25. The food formulation of claim 18, wherein the target food item is a sorbet or a dessert gel.
- 26. A kitchen playset, comprising at least one food formulation for the child-safe preparation of an edible foodstuff that is representational of a target food item, where the edible foodstuff is preparable by the addition of water to the food formulation at room temperature or below, and the edible foodstuff has a texture and a flavor appropriate for the target food item.